

Claims

1. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade comprising:

a tongue-engaging plate having a top surface, a bottom surface, a forward end, a rear end, a first side, a second side and a central area;

a foam strip support having a top surface and a bottom surface with said foam top surface attached to said tongue engaging plate bottom surface between said forward end and said rear end and between said first side and said second side;

a pressure-sensitive adhesive having a top surface, attached to and extending along said foam support bottom surface, and a bottom surface, available for attaching said tongue stabilizer to a laryngoscope blade.

2. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate forward end is rounded and said rear end and said first side meet in a rounded corner and said rear end and said second side meet in a rounded corner.

3. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

said tongue engaging plate top central area is recessed to provide a tongue-cradling concavity.

4. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate has a thickness of from 0.015 to 0.125 inch.

5. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate width between said first side and said second side is between $\frac{7}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch so as to extend externally beyond said laryngoscope blade.

6. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate length between said forward end and said rear end is from 1 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

7. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

said foam strip has a thickness of from $\frac{1}{32}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

8. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 1 wherein:

a protective covering on said pressure-sensitive adhesive bottom surface to protect it from contamination.

9. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 7 wherein:

said foam strip has a width from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and a length of from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 inches.

10. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 3 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate top surface central area is recessed below said forward end, rear end, first side and second side from a distance of $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

11. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 2 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate width between said first side and said second side is between $\frac{7}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch so as to extend externally beyond said laryngoscope blade;

said tongue-engaging plate length between said forward end and said rear end is from 1 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

12. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 11 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate has a thickness of from 0.015 to 0.125 inch.

13. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 12 wherein:

said tongue engaging plate top central area is recessed to provide a tongue-cradling concavity;

said tongue-engaging plate top surface central area is recessed below said forward end, rear end, first side and second side a distance of from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

14. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 9 wherein:

said tongue-engaging plate forward end is rounded and said rear end and said first side meet in a rounded corner and said rear end and said second side meet in a rounded corner;

said tongue-engaging plate has a thickness of from 0.015 to 0.125 inch;

said tongue-engaging plate width between said first side and said second side is between $\frac{7}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch so as to extend externally beyond said laryngoscope blade;

said tongue-engaging plate length between said forward end and said rear end is from 1 to 2 ½ inches long.

15. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 14 wherein:

said tongue engaging plate top central area is recessed to provide a tongue-cradling concavity.

16. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 15 wherein:

a protective covering is on said pressure-sensitive adhesive bottom surface to protect it from contamination.

17. A tongue stabilizer for a laryngoscope blade as in claim 16 wherein

said tongue-engaging plate top surface central area is recessed below said forward end, rear end, first side and second side a distance of from 1/8 to ½ inch.